



TOP
OF THE
HILL



MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY 4001 HARDING ROAD, NASHVILLE, TN 37205
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The Ghost Of Montgomery Bell?

By Charlie Murff



Montgomery Bell was an iron manufacturer. He was a very hard worker who strived to break from his poor background by making it big in the iron business. A native of Pennsylvania, he moved to Tennessee after buying land in Dickson. Later he bought a piece of land twenty miles outside of Nashville near a area of land called The Narrows. During his life he was known as a hard-working man who would never take no for an answer. So it would make sense that he would haunt people. The ghost of Montgomery Bell is a little known myth that has an interesting background. It is a rumor because multiple people have claimed to have heard a mysterious voice near Montgomery Bell's stomping grounds. Many people believe that the ghost of Montgomery Bell is related to the Bell Witch, who is a witch that

haunts in Robertson County and areas near there. The Bell Witch was famous during her life and more after it. She was known to have magical powers/unnatural powers. Living near Adams

or back then Red River she was famous for doing irregular things. Being so famous that she was even visited by Andrew Jackson. The relation between the Bell Witch and the ghost of Montgomery Bell is that they both haunt Tennessee near Robertson County and Dickson County. They are said to have "met" before.

Another scary idea is that during the Yellow Fever epidemic of 1878, safety coffins were used due to the rampant fear of being buried alive (taphophobia). These safety coffins had a bell cord placed in the hand of the deceased. If the person was in truth still alive, once they regained consciousness, they would pull the cord that would ring a bell either above ground or outside the mausoleum. Many prominent families of the time would hire young men to walk the grounds of the Mt. Olivet cemetery to listen for possible bells of trapped loved ones. In all likely hood some of the boys were students of the newly-founded Montgomery Bell Academy. How many themes do you think were written while sitting on

gravestones listening for bells from the grave? The story is that the boys would be paid for their work at the graves, and more than likely, the boys would have probably been paid very little for the unpleasant job of sitting all night in a graveyard.

In conclusion, Halloween is connected to MBA through a series of mysteries and odd happenings or coincidences.

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Camp Laney 2018



The High Ropes

By Jose' DeLemos

Camp Laney was a great experience for all of the seventh-graders because of all the challenges and fears we had to overcome. At Camp Laney there were six different challenges that we had to face. Some were more challenging than others, but, nevertheless, they were challenges. All are similar to one another in that they all need encouragement and support from their classmates to attempt the challenge and also a little bravery and confidence from the challenger.

But out of all the courses, possibly the biggest and baddest course at Camp Laney is the Kamikaze. It looks pretty easy from



the ground, but once you climb to the top of the first rope ladder, you realize that it is going to be more difficult than you thought. At the beginning of this crazy course, you have to climb up a giant rope ladder, and then climb across multiple wood-and-rope-only bridges to get to a giant pole that awaits you at the end. After you tackle this challenge, you climb onto the giant pole and get harnessed in for the scariest part of all--the jump. Your heart pounds inside your chest, and you start thinking to yourself, "Why did I come up here?" Then, racking up every little bit of bravery you have left and listening to the sounds of encouragement

from your friends, it finally hits you, and you say, "I got this." Then, you jump! For a half a second, it feels like the rope broke, and you are going to hit the ground and die. But no! The rope catches you, and you float safely to earth. Then, you finally get what you came for--the wristband! You can't believe you did it! Then you realize that you want to do it again.

Another frightening course is the Pamper Pole. As soon as you look at this course, you laugh. This course does not look challenging to the eye, but do not let this fool you. When you put your harness on, you think that this is going to be a joke. But then you start climbing and realize that you thought to soon. As you climb higher and higher, the pole starts to wobble, a lot. Once you reach the top, you are shaking. In no time your classmates begin to chant your name, telling you that you can do it. You hear your classmates say "5,4,3,2,1, liftoff!" And you jump and reach for the trapeze bar and float down to safety.

In conclusion, Camp Laney was a challenge for many. You learn to put aside your fears and that with trust and help from your friends, you can accomplish anything. Which is what Camp Laney is all about.



Camp Laney 2018



Spirit Week



The Place

By Samuel Kinch

As I walk down a corridor to an unforeseeable place,

A place that my thoughts are what I have to face.

A few bubble up quietly, with remorse and pleasantness,

Others wail down it, driving with scenes of jubilation, or maddening tales.

I also see feelings floating about, trying to latch onto moments in time,

Most, find their home and cuddle up against the fire, some, are left out in the rain.

These forgotten feelings are shadowed by experiences of, what, nothingness?

Why are these memories so empty, so flooded with fabrications, and chimeras,

Why, when the reality is just around the corner?

Are we gaining some form of 'clout', or maybe we are holding up our stature?

Or is it so, that these experiences are filled of what they are made of.

Spurious realism.

I see all of these indescribable entities floating too, trying to make sense of all of this. I find these sublime creatures quite vexatious in particular, and they find me the same,'

As I realize, is this a place that was meant to please?



The Chattahoochee Debate

By Charlie Murff

There are eleven eighth-grade debaters going on the trip. In the JV bracket there are two teams of two: Charlie Murff and Jack Young on MBA MY and Luke Kim and Alex Owings on MBA KO. MBA MY has already gone to a varsity tournament this year but not JV. MBA KO will be making their 8th grade and JV debut even though they both debated last year. The hope is that both teams break into the Novice Division. Some of the teams are Parks Asbury and Peter Roark on MBA AR, Lenox Leverett and Ryan Estrin on MBA EL. On MBA CG, it is Chanden Climaco and Alex Barnard, and finally, on MBA MZ, it is Aidan Moon and Bryan Zhang. It is the first tournament this year for everyone but MBA CB.

During the prelims MBA MY went 3-2 throughout the prelims. They had a few tough debates, losing on the Security K in the first AFF round with answers that were not thorough enough. In the fourth debate they lost because of not being

able to explain their K well enough. In the elims, this team, who was the only 3-2, meaning that they are the best of the 3-2 teams, had to face the best team in the tournament. Resulting in a loss; however, the team still obtained a ballot losing 1-2. Closing their tournament, MBA KO went 4-1, showing a stunning first performance from these two JVers. The debate they lost was because of a new AFF of which they were not prepared. During the elims, this team was 4-1, so they had the luck of going against the easier team. Although a tough debate, they lost in a 3-0 decision which closed out their tournament. In the novice packet MBA AR had a record of 2-3 in five very difficult debates that could have gone either way, but they did not achieve a space in the elims. MBA EL in this novice debate tournament went 4-1 with this first debate tournament ever, proving that they will be a force to be reckoned with. MBA EL won their first elim debates, paving the way for them to go to the finals(semis). This debate was a tough one for them, but with a big team supporting them, they won on a 3-0 decision, becoming one of the four champions. MBA CG,

the most experienced novice team, had great debates, beating many opponents with ease. In the elims they were 4-1 leading into this tournament and were expected to go against an easier team, but it turned out they would have a very hard debate and would end up losing in a very close debate. MBA MZ went 3-2 in their first debate tournament, having an outstanding time and while learning a lot and gaining experience that will give them the ability to win even more in the near future. The team being 3-2 gives them the chance to debate in the elims. The downside to this is their having to go up against the best team in novice. This ended up hurting them, and they lost in a very close debate to one of the best teams.

AWARDS

Jack Young got 3rd Place Speaker award in JV.

Alex Barnard got 3rd Place Speaker award in Novice.

Chanden Climaco got 2nd Place Speaker award in Novice.

Advisory Officers/Service Reps 2018-2019

Eighth Grade

Creamer/Gillespie: Reed Sullivan

Cooper/Wims: Keen Zoller

McMurray/Killian: Browning Trainer

Kesor/Spiegl: Grayson Soper/Henry Roberts

Russ/Russell: Connor Carr

Simpson/Euverard: Niles Melteson/Evan Smith/Smith Zoller

Roberts/Raines: Patrick Tatro/Jude Tuminello/Andy Nunn

Ellery/Sawyer: Coleman Smith

Anderson/Cirillo: Oliver Pilkinton/Frank Dinkins

Chauvin/Overton: Christian Lim/Walker Stevens

Seventh Grade

Creamer/Gillespie: Yates Ghertner/Luke Ricciardelli

Cooper/Wims: Nathaniel Berman/Harrison Dawkins/Sam Hall

McMurray/Killian: Ebenezer Henry Okafor/Jose' DeLemo

Kesor/Spiegl: Luke Brown/Conrad Wade

Russ/Russell: Hutton Wall

Simpson/Euverard: Nick Brunetti/Zeke Stroud

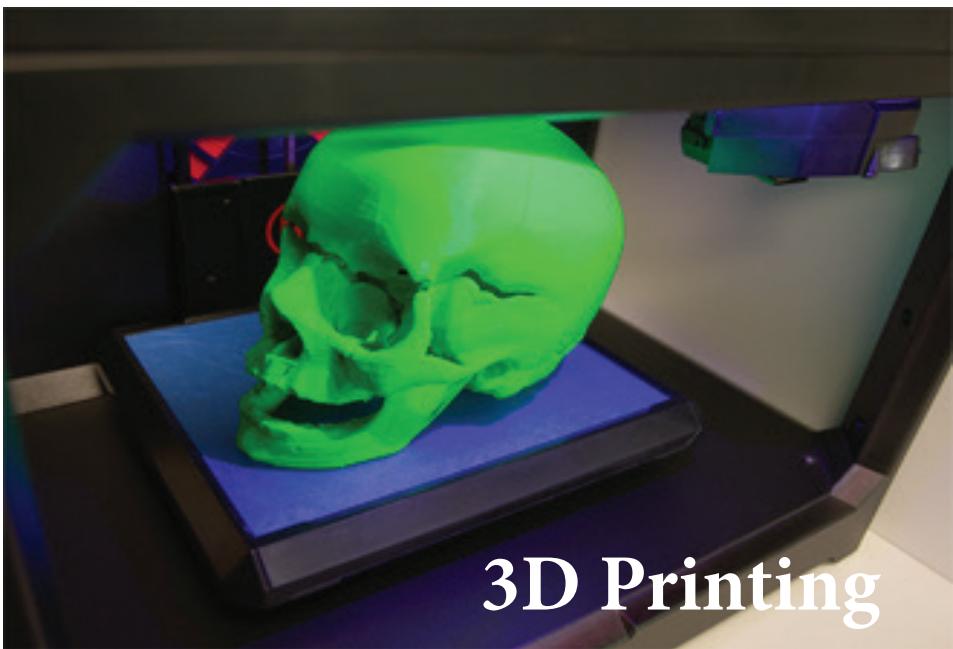
Roberts/Raines: Ryan Russell

Ellery/Sawyer: Ketch Parker/Hays Lindsey/Joseph Baker/Terran Davis/Owen Willers/Liam Eadie

Anderson/Cirillo: Will Caldwell/Luke Keller

Chauvin/Overton: Reid Jacobs





3D Printing

By Lain Orndorff

Since the beginning of man, humans have been trying to invent new and efficient ways to produce goods. From the common screwdriver to an assembly line, people have been inventing ways to distribute products. One of the newest breakthroughs in this field is three dimensional printing (3D printing).

The process began in the mid-1980s when Hideo Kodama first created the patent for a 3D printer. As it was only used by him to make prototypes, when the patent expired, the business boomed with new ideas and creations. Two companies quickly rose to power: Makerbot and Formlabs. Makerbot used the FDM style of printing, while Formlabs had printers of both SLA and FDM.

FDM, or fused deposition modeling, is the most basic form of printing. Long strings of plastic are fed into a device that melts it and the machine deposits it onto a platform to create the item. The filaments are layered on top of one another to slowly make the full model. It

is an easy feat, but the precision is not ideal due to lack of ability to put melted plastic in midair. The result is still a reliable and durable.

The next form of 3D printing is SLA, or stereolithography. This style uses a liquid for the print, contrary to the FDM solid used. There are two types of printers: right-side up and inverted. The one discussed here will be inverted. A small tub of liquid resin is placed below a plate that moves up and down. The platform is submerged in the gooey liquid and a laser is shot through the resin. Where the laser touches the plate, the resin is cured and hardens into plastic. This form results in extreme accuracy and durability. The resin is an expensive aspect, and the printers are typically more high maintenance. There are many things that are required to be regulated to have the machine at top performance.

The benefits of 3D printing are worth it though. With the ability to work on the inside of the model, changes for benefits can be made. To remove weight, one

can make the object hollow or add internal supports. Also, internal gears and intricacies can be added without having to dissect the object. Another benefit is the ability to model online. With the access to precise measurements and designs, the different print possibilities and ideas are endless.

With all good things, there are downsides to printing. First off, it is expensive to have and maintain a printer. The resin is extremely expensive and does not last forever. A quality printer is upwards of \$1000. Also, print fails are not uncommon if a printer is merely bumped, the whole entire object can be ruined. The amount of time that even a small print takes is substantial compared to the time that could be spent cutting out a brief prototype. In recent news, a man named Cody Wilson 3D printed firearms and sold the blueprints on the Internet. His company, Defense Distributed, had the specs to make handguns and AR-15s under the belief that he is benefiting the human race by allowing people to create their own weapons and demonstrating the second amendment.

In conclusion, 3D printing is the way of the future, despite the minor inconveniences. The ability for the average person to make one's own silverware is a very legitimate possibility in the near future. Least to say, 3D printing will change the future in various ways.



TN Midterm Elections

By Charlie Murff

OVERVIEW

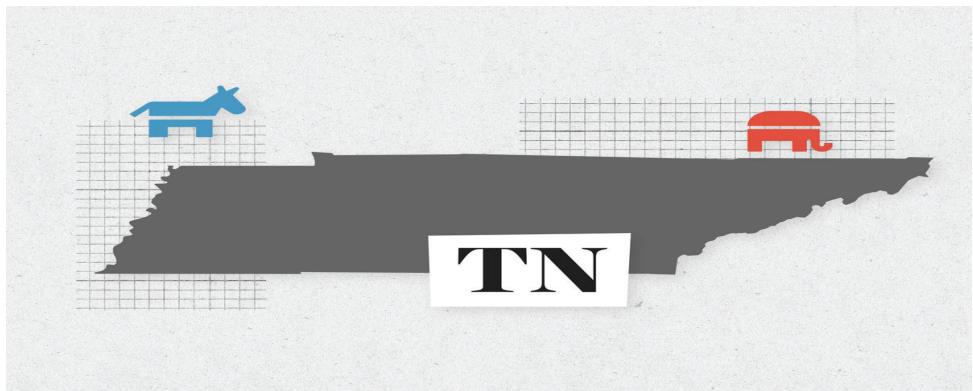
The 2018 Midterm elections will be monumental. The Blue Wave could overturn the Republicans in the House and/or Senate. This election season could lead to a switch in the political parties controlling the House or Senate. In the Senate the Blue Wave needs to win two seats to gain back the Senate (along with keeping the 26 Democratic incumbents seats). In the house, the Democrats need to win at least 23 House races to gain back control (this does not include the current Democratic incumbents).

HOUSE

The incumbent Jim Cooper is running and is expected to win. Jim Cooper has a deep history in the House of Representatives. He was the representative for the 4th district from 1983 - 1995. The fourth district contains the southern counties of Tennessee. During this time Cooper became well known for being a well-researched Democrat. After taking a leave of absence, he came back in 2003 to run for the 5th District and won. The 5th District is Middle Tennessee as a whole. Now, he is a part of the Blue Dog Coalition, a group of Democrats that are less extreme than those in the House now.

SENATE

In the race for the Senate, it is Marsha Blackburn versus Phil Bredesen. They are fighting to take over the seat that was formerly held by the Republican Bob Corker. Marsha Blackburn is the Republican



candidate. She previously served as a Tennessee Senator and House Representative for the 7th District. While she has a lot of Congressional experience, Phil Bredesen has an immense amount of experience in government. Phil Bredesen was the mayor of Nashville from 1991 to 1999. He was also the governor of Tennessee from 2003 to 2011. Being a Democrat, Phil Bredesen is expected to get the bigger cities like Nashville and Memphis. While Marsha Blackburn is expected to get the more rural cities. The race is expected to be close, and it will be interesting to see if Tennessee will ride the Blue Wave or will stay with the GOP.

GOVERNOR

In the race for Governor, two opponents stand. Bill Lee is the Republican candidate from East Tennessee. He is a businessman

known for the Lee Company. Bill Lee is a well-known, successful businessman trying to get into politics. His opponent Karl Dean is very well-known for being the Nashville mayor from 2007 to 2015. Dean is trying to break the tide of previous Republican governors and become another Democratic one.

CONCLUSION

The conclusion in each of these Midterm elections are if the GOP will still be the leading party in the Tennessee political system or if the Democrats will show up this election year and vote out all the Republicans.

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U.S. SENATE RACE



MARSHA BLACKBURN



PHIL BREDESEN

TN GOVERNOR RACE



KARL DEAN



BILL LEE



Do You Know Your Economic Systems?

Capitalism

By Charlie Murff

Capitalism is an economic system that gives the people and private enterprises the control of the economy. The economy is often called the free market. Like anything there are pros and cons to this economic system. But, the question is if the pros outweigh the cons or if the cons outweigh the pros. Capitalism was not just one idea but it was a mixture of ideas that cultivated into one system after years of change. The Middle Ages brought forth the first rough outline of capitalism with the cloth industry being the main contributor.

Cons of capitalism are it potentially causes climate change. Capitalism is thought to be a major cause of climate change because capitalism gives companies the ability to control how they manufacture their product. This ability to control what and how they make a product can leave to climate change because usually the company will choose to use the cheapest way to manufacture the product and most of the time the cheapest way will hurt the environment one way or another. Another downside to capitalism is that it causes the poor to be poorer. Capitalism is a cycle that cause the already poor to be even more poor because there is little way that the poor can make it out of poverty because the cycle makes the head of the companies want to pay their workers less which makes the workers dive deeper into poverty. The capitalist cycle is able to be broken by some but often it gives the impoverished people little to no way out causing them to live their entire in poverty. Both of these negatives of capitalism bring about a worse world in the end.

Pros of capitalism are first that it gives the people to control of the economy. This allows for more innovation because the people want to make money so they decided to work on a new product. This pushes forward the United States and the world because with more and more tech coming out of these capitalist countries the world is able to move forward. Moving forward can also mean fixing the problems that are stated above because with new tech climate change can be fixed or delayed years. Also with new tech poverty can be fixed because more people will get jobs at the tech companies. Another positive of capitalism is that it can help the rich get rich. This situation can be good because the rich would be able to disperse their money around to the less fortunate which can help them get out of the poverty and the capitalist cycle. Although it happens very little it can still happen.

In conclusion, capitalism has pros and cons like many things. So far capitalism has worked but in the end it may not. Being for the people and by the people can be troubling but also gives more freedom to the people of the nation state. The only way to determine if capitalism is good or not is by understanding the economic system and knowing both sides of the story.



Socialism

By Jack Young

Socialism is an economic and political system based on public or collective ownership of the means of production and labor. Socialism emphasizes equality rather than monetary achievement and gain. It also makes citizens dependent on the state for everything from food to health care. China, Vietnam and Cuba are examples of modern-day socialist societies. And some twentieth-century socialist governments, though overthrown, were Czechoslovakia, East Germany and the U.S.S.R. Socialism is often used as a blanket term to describe

Continued on page 10



Economic Systems Continued from page 9 ideologies such as Anarchism, Communism, Democratic Socialism, Libertarian socialism, and Syndicalism, however I will be talking about the most common, Democratic Socialism.

Democratic Socialism was created in response to capitalism, as capitalism has led to income inequality and what socialists would define as “the class struggle” where the 1% (ex. Jeff Bezos, Bill Gates) contain too much power and create a cycle of poverty. Democratic Socialism, a term made mainstream by 2016 presidential candidate Bernie Sanders and defined as “that [which]combines the political philosophy of democracy with the economic philosophy of socialism. The term can refer to a range of political and economic organizational schemes.” This makes citizens dependent on public services such as schools, libraries, and food stamps. This system gives more power to the government to ensure that economics can become equal. Other goals of Democratic socialism are a higher minimum wage, child aid services, and a more flexible work week that suits both the company and the employee. This service allowed for Bernie Sanders, despite being the oldest candidate, tap into the hearts and minds of progressive Millennials, where “41% of likely Democratic voters in that age group support Sanders, versus just 35% for Hillary Clinton.”

In Democratic Socialism, elections should be present, although in some socialist nations such as Venezuela elections are rigged. Democratic Socialism has been critiqued for giving too much power to the government which allows for corruption.

All in all, socialism is an interesting concept, with an interesting history. With the rise of Bernie Sanders, the modernized socialist societies such as Scandinavia, and left leaning societies such as Canada, time will only tell what ideology is the most sustainable.

Communism is Great Because of A, B, and L

By Luke Kim

Communism is an idea built around equality through equal distribution of land and labor. Communism throughout history has turned from an idealistic government as prophesied by the ancient Greeks to a hated and despised “failed” concept.

In the beginning Communism was an idea brought about by Plato in his work *Republic*. The idea continued to gain steam during the Middle Ages when the feudal system and harsh conditions for peasants and serfs made the utopian end goal a welcome treat for sore minds. The industrialization during the 19th century led to a resurgence in communism due to strident working conditions that brought upon by the increase of factory work. Communism was finally recognized after the publishing of *The Communist Manifesto* by Karl Marx and many other philosophers in 1847. Going along with the manifesto meant that the proletariat, the poor, stuck populous, could only free themselves from the bourgeoisie through the sights of a revolution. The movement began to grow and spread across Europe throughout the mid-1800s while revolutionary groups grew in power. This time of revolution culminated in the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia which saw the rise of Lenin and his gang of communism loving Russkies. The poor farmers of Russia banded together and with the Russian government's class structure the revolution was born. On October 6, 1917, the Russian military overthrew the Russian government and instilled the Bolsheviks in power. Though filled with internal strife, the Soviet Union marched on and became a world power. During WWII Hitler and other Nazis believed that the Communists were their enemy and that he needed to conquer those dang Soviets. The Red Army took very heavy losses but was able to finally rally and take Berlin. In China a fateful revolution grew. Mao Ze-Dong created a nation of Chinese communists who gave new life to the worldwide revolution. The communist Chinese nation took control of China after the defeat of Japan. After WWII and the rise of Mao came the Cold War in which the Eastern, communist Bloc fought proxy wars against the capitalist West. Communism has started to decline after the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991 and survives only in Xi Jinping and Kim Jon Un's regimes. Communism once stood on a great pedestal as an idea of equality but has been tarnished by the dictatorial leaders who took control of these nations and created almost authoritarian regimes.



An Analysis of the Current Trade War (Featuring John Kim)

By Luke Kim

Recently the Trump administration has started to raise tariffs on Chinese goods, *but why?* I got to ask John Kim, the regional head of mergers and acquisitions in Asia for Goldman and Sachs, a few questions. “I think he [Trump] thinks that China is unfair, I think he thinks that China benefits on getting things from the US, but they don’t let the US buy into China.” Trump, in an effort to fix what he thinks is unfair, has started a trade war with China. A trade war, a fight between countries fought through higher tariffs on imported goods, can affect both consumer level economics and higher finance through an increase in the price of general goods and slower economic growth which hurts companies large and small and general financial markets. Usually this price increase in goods is what ends trade wars, but so far neither the US or China seem to be looking for an end.

After China’s changing of its tariff list from 106 goods to 545 products at the same 25 percent tariff rate as before, Trump responded with 25 percent tariffs on 818 Chinese products while a second proposal for tariffs on 284 Chinese products that targeted iron, steel, and machinery was put under review. So far the US



and China are on their third round of tariffs which overall total to US\$250 billion in tariffs on Chinese goods and US\$110 billion in tariffs on US products. Xi Jinping’s regime has threatened “the largest trade war in economic history to date” and Trump has threatened further tariffs on US\$467 billion more of Chinese goods. While negotiations to lower tensions have started up again on September 12, the trade war looks like it will keep going for at least a year. As Mr. Kim said, “I think the trade war is gonna last for a long time because I think the US economy is strong, and a lot of people support Trump in the trade war, and China’s not backing down either. It takes a while before the prices consumers pay become higher and they start complaining to their elected officials.”

Overall, the trade war will cause much damage to both Chinese and US economies and the average citizen of both nations. Mr. Kim supported the idea of the trade war’s negative effects on markets and companies as he said, “I think the trade war will lead to slower economic growth in US and China, and slower economic growth hurts companies and financial markets. That’s why I think it’s a bad thing.” Mr. Kim also explained why trade wars similar to this are bad for the average consumer, “Let’s say China is the cheapest producer of make-up

or whatever... but if the US is putting tariffs on it then they [US citizens] end up paying more for it... they end up paying more for goods.” Currently prices are mostly stagnant, but soon the effects will bleed over to prices and consumers across the US and China.

When it comes to US-China relations, the trade war hasn’t helped. China isn’t looking to surrender to the US, but China is getting hit much harder than the US and won’t fully pull out from the negotiating table. So far China has left some military and trade talks and threatens more tariffs and sanctions, but as China looks to save tensions, the heat from the Trump administration is crippling any chance at bettering their relations. The trade war seems to just be Trump expressing his feelings toward Xi Jinping and the CCP.

On all fronts, the trade war is bad for China and the US. The trade war is crippling to the US and Chinese economies, raising prices for consumers and ruining the relationship between both nations. However bad the effects are, Trump and Xi Jinping seem to be at each other’s throats, and neither seems to be backing down. Many experts support the conclusion that the next 1 to 2 years will be years of the trade war. As Mr. Kim said the trade war is “bad.”



2018 Atlantic Hurricane Season

By Frank Hancock

This year's Atlantic hurricane season has affected the lives of thousands of Americans on the east coast especially in the southeast. Florence and Michael, the two largest hurricanes of the season so far, caused people in the states of North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, and Virginia to lose power, their homes, and so much more. With the arrival of El Niño, both in terms of the hurricane season and time period, this year's predictions for future hurricanes will become difficult to predict and prepare for.

Beginning the 2018 hurricane season was Tropical Storm Alberto. This tropical storm formed on May 25 east of Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula and then came up to the Florida panhandle on Memorial Day. Alberto caused landslides in North Carolina and up to 9 inches of rain in Alabama. Phil Klotzbach, a meteorologist of Colorado State University, said Alberto was the longest-lived Atlantic named storm that formed in May in 65 years.

The next two storms formed during the first couple days of August, Hurricane Beryl and Hurricane Chris. Beryl formed in the lower latitudes and came up towards the Caribbean. It caused flooding and massive amounts rain in the Dominican

Republic, Bermuda and Puerto Rico. Chris formed in the Gulf Stream off the coast of North Carolina. As it built up it started towards the northeast but went east towards Newfoundland to affect its coast.

August is when hurricane season is in full effect. On August 4, Tropical Storm Debby which did not make it very far from the northern Atlantic and turned into a post-tropical cyclone. Debby was shortly followed by Tropical Storm Ernesto which also formed in the northern Atlantic. It headed towards the border of the US and Canada but was caught by the jet stream with its remnants ending up in the UK and Ireland. Tropical Storm Gordon was another storm that affected the US. It formed in the Caribbean and went up through the United States.

The two biggest hurricanes of the season so far were Hurricane Florence and Hurricane Michael. Florence destroyed parts of the Carolinas. It formed in the Cape Verdes Islands on August 28 and came up to the Carolinas becoming a Category 2 at landfall. Florence impacted Virginia, Maryland, and Washington D.C. as well. Michael formed in the Caribbean on October 2. Michael trashed beaches along 30A. Though 30A was destroyed, it was nothing compared to the destruction experienced at Mexico Beach.

Hurricane Michael caused many Fall Break vacations to be canceled or moved to other places.

Other storms that came after Florence were Helene, Isaac, Joyce, and Kirk. All four of these formed in the Atlantic and caused minimal effect to the area. Hurricane Leslie was the last hurricane to appear in September. Leslie formed off the coast of Spain and affected parts of western Europe. The last storm to appear is Tropical Storm Nadine which formed near the Cape Verdes Islands and is currently in the Atlantic Ocean.

Hurricane season is always a burden on the East Coast, and many more storms are expected to come during this record-breaking hurricane season. Hurricanes are a part of many climates all over the U.S. This hurricane season has been nothing like last year's season with Hurricane Harvey tarnishing the southeast part of Texas, and Hurricane Irma which set many records all over the Florida Panhandle. The season isn't over yet, but the worst has past.

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What Makes a Good Movie, and Why Do They Become Popular and Stay Popular?

By Jack Forbes

Note: This a running series of articles on why humans enjoy cinema and what it means to be a good movie.

Why do people like cinema so much? Why have movies intrigued us for such a long time, and not radio or silent film? What is so appealing as to distract children from their schoolwork or to cause families to have a set date specifically for movies that can not be missed no matter what happens? Multiple reasons can be used to explain this culture of movie-watching that has evolved over the past hundred years. When movie theaters became popular,

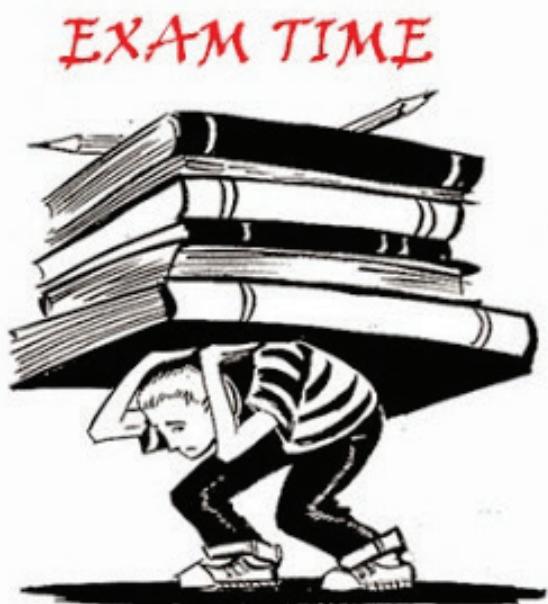


it was not because of the silent but gripping plot of the murdering butler, but instead, the air conditioning. Movie theaters were among the first to use air-conditioning, so what better way to spend a few hours of your day than going to see a classic "who done it" in a calm, cool theatre on a hot summer day. But that was over a hundred years ago, and as more and more people came to theaters to cool down, more money went into the production of movies and people became more than a sadistic servant. Audio was added, plot increased, and movies became a regular occurrence.

Now movies appeal to a lot of our senses. We are cool, intrigued, listening, and if you are willing to pay, fed. A stark contrast to radio, which was used more for news and not entertainment. After we added audio, we added better cameras, stunts,

and props. Iconic films of the seventies and eighties featured car chases and monsters made possible by better props, graphics, and directors, further fueling mankind's consumption of films. Movies became better and better, moving away from advanced stop action to even more advanced computer animation. Then somewhere in the early 2000's, movies became digital. Cinema could now be rented or bought on your TV and phone for a lot less than seeing it at the movie theaters. Movies became widespread, meaning their viewings became greater, meaning more and more people started to adapt movies into their daily lives and enjoy them. It is a dream! You are now able to enjoy a dying Loki at a calm, cool, hippie cafe with a pumpkin spice latte and vegan almond butter substitute with kale and rice patties on hand.

Cinema lets us see a part the world that we might otherwise not see. Why is cinema illegal in North Korea? It is illegal because it lets the oppressed population see what life is like, and what it could be. The plot and portability of modern movies are what keeps us coming back, but it was outside things like air-conditioning and the actual movie theatre that got us to watch movies in the first place.



Exams are Coming! Fall Semester Exam Schedule

Wednesday, December 12 - English
Thursday, December 13 - Math
Friday, December 14 - Latin-Grammar/Vocabulary
Monday, December 17 - Science
Tuesday, December 18 - History
Wednesday, December 19 - None

Venom

Review

By Alex Deerkoski

Does Sony kick off its own superhero universe with a good movie? For the most part, yes. The movie is about a celebrity reporter (Eddie Brock) who, after getting fired, gets dragged into a billionaire's plot who thinks that earth is about to collapse because of humans. The only solution? Combine symbiote (an alien) and human! Overall, the movie starts off poorly. The beginning is far from slow, but the tone and flow of the beginning of the film is very different from the rest of the movie. The beginning, while interesting, is drawn out and longer than it needs to be. The movie takes about thirty minutes before Venom combines with Eddie Brock. However, after the movie actually gets Venom in it, the movie picks up speed and flies. The action is entertaining, making up for the slow beginning. The movie lets Venom be the villain that he actually is for a little while, which is the most entertaining part of the movie. Unfortunately, the final act, though very fun to watch, has a confusing plot line that is very hard to follow. The majority of the movie is Eddie and Venom getting chased by the evil organization in the movie, and in the last 30 minutes none of that matters, and it is about getting more symbiotes from space. However, I never really found a reason to care, as did anyone else in the theater. I



think the movie is spectacular if you look at it that way. There are many narration flaws, problems with how the movie is paced, and the movie is flawed overall. However, no one actually really thought about that. The movie is entertaining, and that's all it is. Don't think too hard about the plot, or why characters make the decisions that they do--just enjoy the movie for what it is. The movie is humorous, and the connections between Eddie and Venom are extremely entertaining, and most audience members will get a kick out of it. The first thirty minutes of the film are sort of dark and moody, where the rest of the film feels more like a fun action film. Overall, I would give the movie an 8/10.

This part of the review was not meant to be written. I ended up seeing *Venom* twice by accident. I went to the theater on Friday, then got invited by a friend to see it the next day. Overall, *Venom* is a good movie. I originally had the final score for the first time I saw the movie as an 8/10; however, I then realized how much I actually enjoyed the movie and changed the score to a 9/10. The second time I saw it, the movie was not as good

as the first time. By all means, it was still a good movie, but not great like the first time. I think the reason for this is that *Venom* is unlike any other comic book movie I have ever seen. It doesn't have the lightness and humor of the Marvel universe, or the dark nuance of the DC universe, it sort of splits those two perceptions right down the middle. It is really entertaining, with some darker moments, but also with good humor as well. The first time, I was so mesmerized by the movie, that I didn't know what to think of it. I realize now, that I loved the movie.

The second time, I had a deeper grasp of what was going on, and that's why it wasn't as fun. The chaotic nature of the movie that I experienced the first time I watched it is unmatchable to any other time I will see it. The second time, I would rate *Venom* a 7/10. It was still good, but not as good as the first time. So, that means the overall rating of the movie is an 8/10.

Final Consensus: *Venom*'s fun themes are matched by a unique direction to a superhero film that, while flawed, gives the audience unique eye-candy for a superhero movie.

A Quiet Place: An Intelligent Horror Film

By Chase Thor

What a blessing! The apocalyptic *A Quiet Place* is what I have been waiting for in the horror genre. It is bright, freaky, realistic, and overall better than any other movie I have ever seen PERIOD. Directly after the introductory promotions of the production company (like the Disney thing where it shows Cinderella's castle and plays "When You Wish Upon a Star"), the movie starts in medias res, showing the protagonists looting a drug store in complete silence. The absolute lack of dialogue allows much more insignificant sounds to capture the attention of the audience, making the film stand out regarding creativity. On the topic of uniqueness, the movie showcases thought into avoiding many horror genre clichés, mainly the creaking floorboard giving away the position of a character. In the



house that the protagonists occupy, the quiet floorboards are painted in white, allowing for efficient and silent navigation. Also, all of the pathways frequently traveled by the family are covered in sand, again allowing for silent navigation, though the sand serves another purpose in addition to minimizing noise. The family walks barefoot through the entire movie, which

would be agonizing on commonly uneven and rough surfaces such as roads. Walking barefoot also can expose said shoe-less person to many parasites including tapeworms, which require a cut to enter your system. Sand is both a very inhospitable environment for parasites as well as being able to act as a barrier on top of broken glass, sharp rocks, and splinters. Overall, *A Quiet Place* represents the hard work of a myriad of writers, directors, camera operators, makeup artists, set designers, editors, not to mention the incredible performance of the actors and the sign language interpreter who allowed for captionable discourse. The experience of watching this movie is a one-of-a-kind, cannot-find-anywhere-else experience that I will continue to relive over and over again.



Grandparents Day
is
Tuesday, November 20th!

*Bring your best smile and your
coat and tie to welcome your
grandparents to the campus.*



The Meg

Review

By Alex Deerkoski

Is *The Meg* a good shark thriller, or does it succumb to the shark sub-genre's wounds? Overall, I really enjoyed the movie, and it exceeded my expectations. These expectations were that the movie would be a fun b-movie, maybe like a toned-down *Sharknado*. However, the movie ended up being more serious and less insane than I thought it was going to be. The movie's general storyline is that a Megalodon shark, thought to have been extinct, is alive, and the people who know this information go on a journey to kill it before any harm can come from it. That storyline is the entire movie, nothing too complex, but nothing too underwhelming. The movie does explain how the shark has survived for a long time, and how it moves from deep down in the water to the surface for a good forty to fifty minutes. However,



those minutes of the film are not boring, but instead, entertaining. After the shark surfaces, the real fun begins. From watching the trailer, I was expecting the special effects to be terrible, but they were excellent. Which, when a movie has a large budget, it should have great special effects. My main problem is that most of the movie felt like a shark thriller, kind of like *Jaws*. However, in the final 30 minutes of the film, the movie descended into more of an action movie premise. Now, both of those parts of the movie are entertaining to watch, but it does subtract from the fun of the

movie. Once an audience member gets used to the more thrilling first part of the film, they have to adjust to a more comic-book movie section, which just feels like a totally different movie. Another thing I enjoyed was the cast choices. Jason Statham was a perfect choice for a rescue diver (as he was once a diver in real life), and one of the reasons why this movie has already made so much money is Rainn Wilson (a.k.a. Dwight Schrute from *The Office*).

One reason people might not enjoy the movie is if they go in with deep expectations. For example, if the viewer expects a

serious movie, this is not that movie. If the viewer expects a totally crazy and obscure movie, this is not that movie either. Just think of something in the middle, and I highly recommend this flick.

Rating :
7.5/10. **Consensus:**
Though flawed, *The Meg* is a fun movie with an exciting cast, and an overall fun premise.

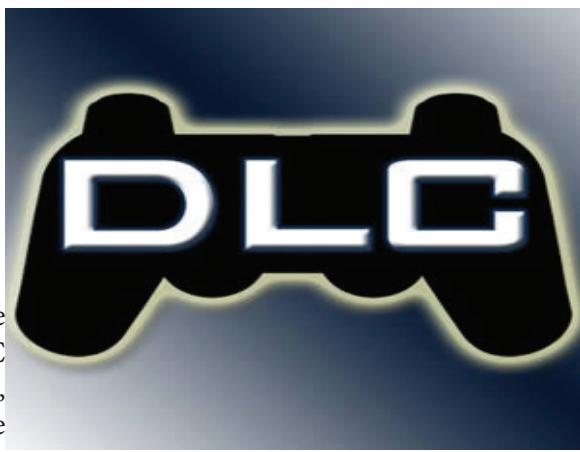


Video Game DLC

By Samuel Kinch

In 1979, with the release of *Dunjonquest*, video game DLC was born. For the uninitiated, DLC, or “Downloadable Content,” is the common term for add-ons to the game that you can buy. It is thought that having these additions can expand the lifetime of a game, and from what the evidence has shown, that is correct. But, there are a few major problems that keep it from outstanding financial success. Knowing these faults can help us understand how and why big games can, have, and will fall. DLC is a beast, and controlling it now has become a major part of game design.

You could be wondering what the big deal with DLC is. The deal with DLC is that it divides the player base. If you pay, you get the DLC (the content



could be newer guns, game modes, maps, or even a discounted price on everything you buy in-game). Players just like run-of-the-mill gamer Luke Murray have said, “DLC is great. Just as long as you steal your mom’s credit card.” There are some small benefits to the players though, it allows the developers to have an extra source of income going into the main game, and keeps the game alive, making it seem more fresh.

However, thinking about DLC from the developer side of things raises an interesting point. Touching back on price, adding a DLC makes a game look juicier to the regular buyer. Game prices have stayed static for about the past decade, even though the quality of games have gone up, leaving the marketing directors in a pickle. I know from being a buyer myself that no one wants to buy a \$100 game, but that would be the estimated cost without DLC. It is hard to think about, but games should really cost more. This makes managing DLC even harder. Going back to the developers being in a pickle, how do you balance it? On the one hand, if you make the game too Pay to Win, you jeopardize the PR of a game, lay it on too little, and you get fired. Finding the happy medium is the only option.

DLC is a transmogrifying entity that can wholly lead to the complete devastation of a game’s success. It has become,

in recent years a developer’s nightmare. Although it has been stated that DLC is incredibly hard to manage, there are some games who, on both sides of the DLC spectrum (over use of it and under use), have figured it out. From the low side of the spectrum, *Rainbow 6 Siege*. For a little background on what *Rainbow 6 Siege* is, it is a highly tactical 1st person shooter. The game modes try to simulate real hostage or bomb situations, with five players on defense and five on offense. *Rainbow 6 Siege* DLC is called the Year (whichever year) Pass. The Year Pass lasts over, well a year, which is four seasons. A new season includes a new map and two new operators. At the end of the Year Pass, you are given all of the operators, spanning the seasons for free, a discount at the store, and some other small in-game boosters. Looking at all of that on paper seems like a lot, but compared to other games, that is not the case. *Battlefield 1* is another example. *Battlefield 1*’s DLC goes as follows. The Premium Pass is its form, coming with exclusive maps, Operations (a certain game mode), unlockable guns, beta access, and a few other small bonuses like *Rainbow 6*’s (by the way, even though that *Battlefield*’s DLC took a lot less time to say, its DLC is way more important). DLC can be a helpful edition to a game. It can morph it into a masterpiece or a failure with the change of a variable. DLC keeps the gaming world alive.

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The Year-Round Disney Halloween Experience

By Chase Thor

Although I decided not to visit the “Mickey’s Not-So-Scary Halloween Party” because, frankly, I was utterly exhausted at the end of each day, I was able to attend the two spooky rides at Disney, both residing in the fun-filled Hollywood Studios park. However, to understand the entire perspective of this event, we have to go way back; back to lunch on the day of my haunted Disney experience...

I was bored out of my mind. After spending a good three hours at the Magic Kingdom without a single



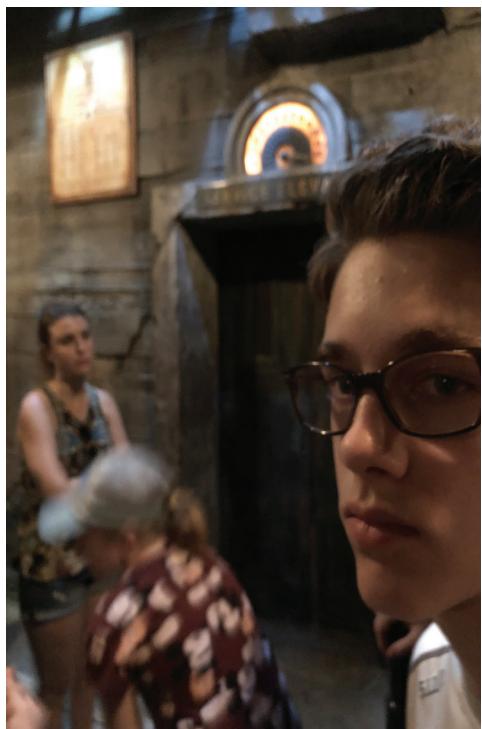
loop, upside-down, or otherwise relatively thrilling roller coaster, I was getting ready to go ahead and call it a day. Sadly, I could not. As I bit off another piece of my chicken tender, I began to think. I had two rides on my agenda for the *Top of*



the Hill newspaper: the Haunted Mansion and the Tower of Terror. As it would turn out, the haunted mansion was just a maze of cool animatronics and realistic ghost projections; so nothing that exciting. The Tower of Terror was another story entirely. I was pretty scared to hop on this ride. The Tower stood a staggering one hundred and ninety-nine feet high to avoid the aviation regulations that demand buildings of two hundred feet or more to have flashing lights on the top. These laws are also the reason for Cinderella’s Castle being one hundred and eighty-nine feet tall (the regulations were at one hundred and ninety at the time of its construction). The Tower is a drop ride, where the vehicle is shot to the top of a vertical track and drops back down several times. Disney modeled the attraction so that the car accelerated downwards faster than gravity (9.8 m/s) creating a sensation of being pulled out of

your seat. Having bought the rights from CBS, riding the tower placed the rider in a *Twilight Zone* episode. After checking into an abandoned hotel in the middle of nowhere, the passenger must board a “fully-functioning maintenance service elevator,” which turns out to be only semi-functional. After a few short drops and a long monologue from a voice actor mimicking Rod Serling, the host of the *Twilight Zone* television show, the ride was over. I rolled my eyes. The Tower, after I had built it up as being the pinnacle of thrill on my Disney Halloween adventure, had disappointed me. The drop was no more spooky than that of the roller coaster in the *Toy Story* section. The only saving grace of the ride was the references to the *Twilight Zone* series, which I thoroughly enjoyed.

In summary, the Tower of Terror is not as scary as it seems. So, next time you show up at Disney, try it out. After you do, though, you might want to take the stairs.



Photos are courtesy of the somewhat disappointed thrill-seeker Chase Thor.

How Battle Royale Became so Popular

By Luke Kim

Ninja, Tfue, Daequan, and any other streamer or content creators worth their salt play battle royale, but how did this genre become so popular? The genre started from lowly ARMA mods (a series of first person tactical military shooters, originally released for Microsoft Windows) but grew into one of the most profitable games to date, *Fortnite*. The real start of the genre's beginning was in the rise of *PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds* (PUBG), a realistic battle royale game from Brendan Greene and BlueHole Studios, which skyrocketed on Steam due to "edge of your seat game play." The game was not only fun, but it was popular with streamers and Youtubers who promoted it beyond its legendary status as just a game to an Internet sensation. Streamers like Shroud and Ninja, a big name to come, hopped on the game which led to its explosion outwards which can still be seen in recent twitch numbers.

While PUBG was popular, it lacked many things which could have bettered the game such as frequent changes and a more casual approach



to their audience. A few months later a well-known development team filled all the holes left by the smaller indie team with a game known as *Fortnite*. Many of the complaints surrounding PUBG were readily answered such as console play and cross platform play, smoothness and overall quality of the game, and frequent updates. Major selling points of *Fortnite* weren't only the quality of play, but also content creators. While PUBG was supported by its content creators, *Fortnite* was made by them and they were made by *Fortnite*. The creators

However, *Fortnite* has started to slow down. Problems, complaints, and the lack of substantive updates have started hurting the game, and the genre as a whole. Some problems that have been highlighted by the community are the lack of skill-based mechanics and the addition of back roads to avoid these mechanics, the bloom and accuracy system, and the lack of new, game-changing content. A lot of these issues have been countered by the game's competitive scene which has exploded as Epic throws support into competitions such as the Summer and Fall skirmish. *Black Ops 4*'s release has added a bit more substance as players who like battle royale but not *Fortnite* have another casual alternative to look toward. While *Fortnite* is still going strong in numbers, and PUBG still has a dedicated fanbase, *Black Ops 4*'s Blackout mode is gaining but still hasn't been able to take over the juggernaut of *Fortnite* due to its lacking the

many things that *Fortnite* has like content creators and a unique spin on the genre like *Fortnite*'s building system.



pumped players into the game as it constantly evolved and changed. Once the game became so popular the game started attracting players just because their friends played.

Call of Duty: Black Ops 4

By Jack Rodgers

On September 15th, I was lucky enough to gain access to the beta client of the upcoming video game *Call of Duty Black Ops 4*. I had a blast playing Blackout, the new Battle Royale mode the game includes, and I will be sharing my thoughts on the beta.

Blackout was meant to be a melting pot of all the great parts of the *Call of Duty* franchise, including maps, guns, gadgets, and characters from previous installations of the series. This means fan-favorite maps will be all built into one large map for the Battle Royale mode. I enjoyed that I could drive a truck from the towering skyscrapers of High Rise, the abandoned buildings of Nuketown. It's a nice addition to the game, and veterans of the series will be able to easily navigate the map which will create an interesting and enjoyable aspect to the game.

To more easily move around



the map, Blackout includes ATVs, large trucks, and helicopters as additional options to move around the map. These vehicles not only feel great to drive, with smooth controls and balanced speeds, but also are balanced in the game, not providing too much of an advantage, and being destructible by gunfire.

Guns in Blackout are varying, and all fun to use. There are sub-machine-guns, assault rifles, shotguns, pistols, and sniper rifles scattered throughout the map, with attachments including barrel extensions, sights, and grips being readily available to make each gun your own. Gun play feels excellent, and I had a few moments where I questioned whether my bullets had hit my target or not. The guns felt balanced for the most part, but a few times it felt as if SMGs

could overpower shotguns. I think this is due to the ridiculously long TTK (Time to Kill) or the amount of seconds it takes for each weapon to kill a person. This took away a lot of the immersion I had, because it would take an unreal amount of shots to kill somebody.

Overall, I had a great time playing the beta, and the game was smooth and well optimized. It ran with 120 frames per second on my GTX 1080 graphics card, and at 40-50 FPS on my GTX 750 (Good news for worse computers!) The beta was fun to play for hours on end, but sometimes the TTK takes away from the fun of the game and can lead to some ridiculously long fights. Keep in mind that this is just a beta client, and the full game might fix some of the complaints that I have.

TOH Meetings are every Tuesday in M21!



Halloween Sports Conspiracy Theory

By Browning Trainer

This year, professional sports have been a little out of the ordinary. I mean, the Cleveland Browns won a game for crying out loud. The Cleveland Browns. Yes, you heard me right. The same Cleveland Browns that went 0-16 in the 2017 season and hadn't won a game in 635 days! Back then, Barack Obama was president and Johnny Manziel still played quarterback in the NFL. But, there has been some even crazier stuff, and following that craziness will take us to the NHL, namely the Vancouver Canucks injury report in 2010.

The Vancouver Canucks had been riddled with injuries to an unimaginable extent in 2010. They had at least two defensive starters out the first 18 games, some with normal injuries and some whose injuries are quite the opposite. One defenseman missed games with a bone bruise in his hand from blocking a shot, one missed games with a fractured hand, and another went out with a knee injury. Still another Canucks defenseman missed time with a concussion. Those injuries are pretty common in hockey, but some of the other injuries the Vancouver defensemen suffered were surprising. A player



named Dan Bieksa was cut by a skate, an injury that happens maybe once a career in hockey. And then he was cut by a skate again, missing games both times. Believe it or not, it gets even crazier. Sami Salo took an ugly hit and came close to losing a vital male organ. Another defenseman, Brent Sopel, injured himself and had to miss games. He injured himself while picking up a cracker. That turn of events is almost as unlucky (or nonathletic, take your pick) as it gets. Almost. Yann Suave (what a name) had worse luck. While walking across the street to training camp, he was hit by a car. That almost never happens. Although this happened eight years ago, it comes into play on Halloween night.

This coming Halloween, the same unlucky Vancouver Canucks play the Chicago Blackhawks. While this coincidence is already creepy enough for the Canucks because of their unlucky past, it gets worse. Remember Sami Salo, the defenseman who almost lost a vital, male organ? He sustained that injury against the very team the Canucks play on Halloween night: the Chicago Blackhawks. I'm not saying that a Canucks player will

lose a vital organ, but I think that the coincidences are too many to dismiss. The incredibly unlucky Vancouver Canucks, playing on Halloween night against the same team that nearly cost one of their players a major piece of his package? Something is going to go down. This Halloween game could be the continuation of the Canucks bad luck or worse. After all, the Cleveland Browns did win a game this year. Anything could happen.

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The Microbe Golf Season

By Owen Flanagan

The Junior School golf team composed of six eighth graders and four seventh graders had a rough season of 5-8. An intense try-out of over thirty boys competed for ten spots to be part of the A team. The eighth graders included Walker Stevens, Owen Flanagan, Colston Elder, Geoffrey Woodward, Coleman Smith, and William Stewart. The seventh graders included Ross Sonday, Edwards Settle, Will Jackson, and Dillard Cross. The season started off with a loss against Christ Presbyterian Academy but was followed up with a win against Franklin Road Academy. Each match in the season consisted of four players that competed against other players from one or more schools. Tough matches against the big red's biggest competitors Brentwood Academy and Ensworth gave the team courage to rebound and outscore Harding Academy respectively. Another close loss against Brentwood Academy and two against Grace Christian Academy sealed the regular season for the junior school golf team. As the season closed, the four spots for the annual HVAC tournament were chosen at the final match as the tournament drew nearer. The four boys who participated in the tournament were Owen Flanagan (1), Coleman Smith (2), Edwards Settle (3), and Colston Elder (4). Ten Schools competed at Harpeth Hills golf course for a spot in the top three and a chance to prove themselves a top dog. As bad weather approached



The Microbe Golf Team

the pace of play had to be increased to have maximum play. But because of the weather, the players first five holes were counted as the score, which was for some a benefit. Ensworth placed first, with Hudson Wilt and Ethan Stanford taking first and second in the individual, and the big red taking second amongst other good schools. Owen Flanagan came in with a score of 21 and

Colston Elder finishing with a 24 for Colston. The weather got the best of Coleman and Edwards, but they are due for some low scores in the future. The Junior School golf team would like to thank Coach Kelly for the opportunity to play golf for him and also to Mrs. Stewart for the opportunity to participate in sports.



Microbe Tennis

By Ethan Bittles

Playing on the JS tennis team was a great experience. We played, had really great practices, and an amazing season. In the first season of the year, the team finished the season with a 6-1 record. Our six wins were against Ensworth and Brentwood Academy, and our only loss was to the McCallie school. When playing Ensworth and Brentwood Academy, none of our players were challenged at all, as we completely annihilated their players, winning almost every single match. When playing the McCallie school, we were more challenged. The McCallie

school had a very good team, and we lost easily. MBA could have pulled out a few more matches if everyone on the team was playing their best, but we most likely would have still lost.

Overall, our season was amazing, but not just blowing away most of the competition. Everyone always looked forward to the practices. This year being my first at MBA, I was not expecting to practice five days a week, but I'm glad we were able to do so. At the end of practice, after warm ups and drills, we usually did some sort of competition. This was usually a great way to finish practice. Everyone on the team has someone either better than them or about the same level, so there was never one person who won every time.

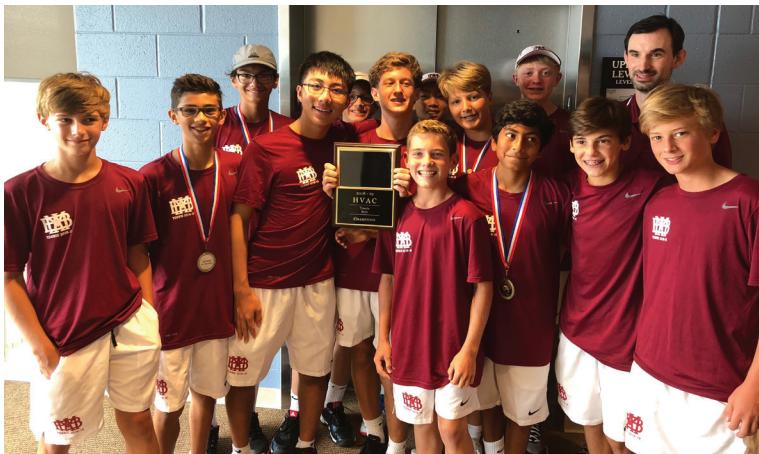
Fridays are the best practices because on those days we would do only competitions and finish with tennis-volleyball. Tennis-Volleyball is

a fun way to finish off the week where all the players are split up on both sides of three courts. The ball is allowed to bounce three times on your side before it has to go over the net. You can set it up to the players on your team so that they smash the ball wherever they want. Tennis-Volleyball was really fun because it doesn't have much to do with actual tennis. It took our mind off how we did in our matches, and how we were playing in general. In tennis it is almost always just you on the court. Sometimes we play with one partner, but we never play with more than that. In tennis-volleyball you have five players on your team that you can rely on. This really helped the team get closer together. I love playing tennis so getting to play on the team was amazing, and I am excited to tryout in the spring.

HVAC Recap: Microbes Win!

By Dr. Boyd

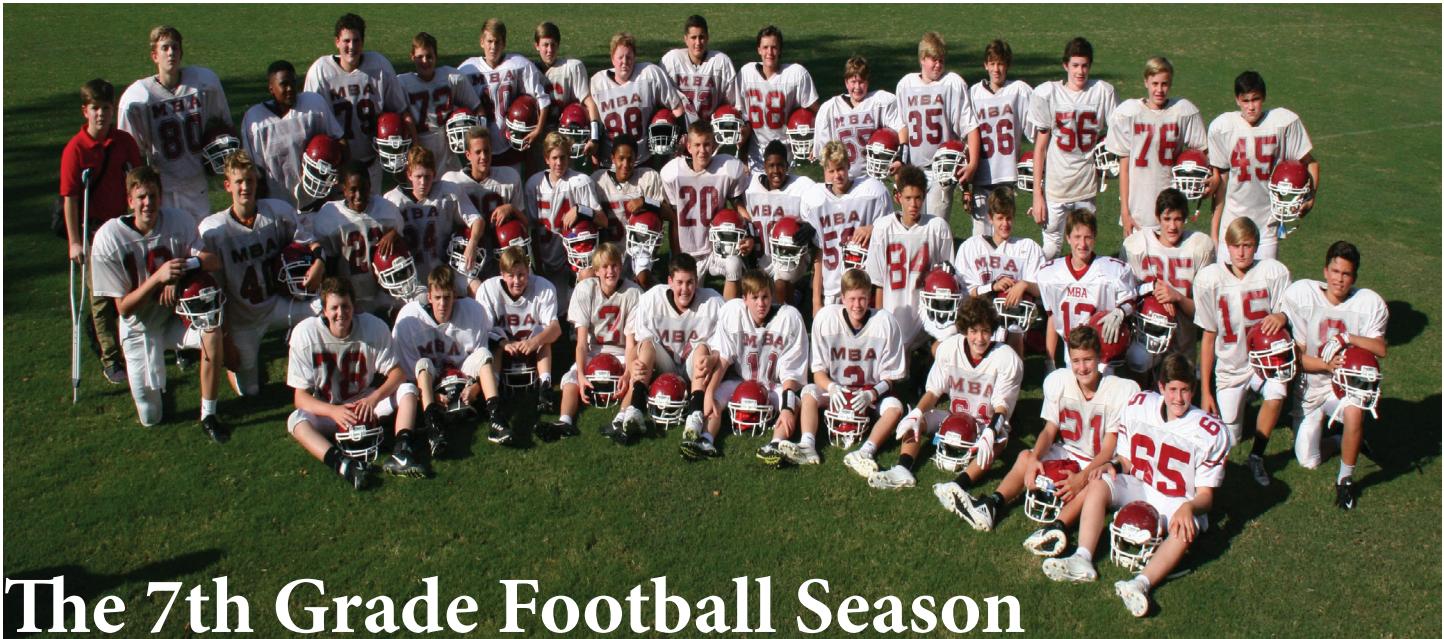
The weather had changed, but the ability and attitude of the Big Red Junior School tennis team had not as MBA squared off against Ensworth and Brentwood Academy in the 2018 HVAC championships on Saturday, September 22. With rain in the air, almost all the matches had to be moved indoors and with MBA being in the #1 seed position at all 5 lines of the tournament, there was only one match for each of our boys to play against opponents who had a semi-final to play beforehand. The change of location and shortened warm-up initially seemed to cause some rustiness, as David Han found himself 3-4 down against an opponent he had previously beaten 8-1 and our number one doubles team of Kavin Lewis and



Ethan Bittles could not quite shake off a strong Ensworth pair they had also beaten earlier in the year. Gradually, however, we found our rhythm. As was the case last year, Peter Xu put our first point on the board with an 8-0 win at #2 singles (the only match played outside) also securing his second HVAC singles medal in two years. Hogan Walker produced a display of solid, consistent serving that saw a close start become an 8-2 win at the #3 spot and when David Han decided to play a forehand volley drop-shot from 3 feet inside the baseline at 40-30 and 7-6 (#nervesofsteel) to complete the turnaround at #1 singles,

we had enough wins to secure the team title. Shortly after that, Dawson Stone and Maithreya Gowda kept us on track for the sweep with an 8-0 win at #2 doubles, leaving just Kavin and Ethan on court.

Although Kavin passed up the opportunity to end the finals with a crushing overhead at match-point, he made up for it during the very next rally, forcing an error from Ensworth and walking off the court with Ethan as 8-5 winners. This gave MBA all 5 titles and the team championship and was a really impressive way to end the HVAC season. There was some great tennis played, and we are grateful to Ensworth who put on a great tournament - the positive support and team spirit shown by all the other team members and parents who came to watch us was also much appreciated.



The 7th Grade Football Season

By Harrison Dawkins

The 7th grade football team was definitely a team that will go down in history. According to Coach Roddy Story, "This is the most improved team I have ever seen." Nobody could agree more. Just by looking at their first football practice, you would have thought, "This team is too small" or "They aren't fast". This team proved that heart and mental strength overpowers physical strength.

The first game of the season was a hard fought loss to CPA. The game was back and forth, until CPA managed to find a hole, and take a long run all the way home to go up 6. With seconds winding down, H McIllwain, the quarterback, threw to Nick Brunetti, one of his favorite options. The ball was caught at the 50, but Nick was taken down shortly after. There were times in the game where MBA could have scored, and with better blocking, the score could have definitely been 30-13. MBA's defense was dominant over the over most of the game, especially the first drive, when the d-line drove back the runner for several losses.

The next game was away at Mt. Juliet. MBA was fired up and angry at their previous loss. Off the bat, Jake Moore, the running back with great speed and reflexes, hit the hole hard, and came up with several 10+ yard gains. The offense wasn't the only one killing it, the defense wouldn't sit still, and hit Mt. Juliet's back field hard. McIllwain threw for one touchdown, and connected on a two point conversion. The

chemistry began to build up, and MBA finished hard, all the way until the end.

BA vs MBA is a rivalry each team would do anything to win. MBA came out of the lockers excited. On the first play, BA's 6-foot running back, burst through the pile, carrying MBA's defense on his back. The defense was not ready, BA scored an early touchdown. After one blow to the team, energy was almost fanciful among the sideline. The offense couldn't move the ball very far, without being hit hard by the large, fast, and mentally ready BA players. The game became a blow-out, and the sideline became angry and accusatory. This game was the downfall, the negative of the season.

MBA decided to not give up, and out of nowhere, several players decided to take lead. Davis Crawford, a mean defense and offense player, whose size and speed didn't define him, Morgan Holzapfel, a quick and agile safety, who worked hard each week to claim his spot, and Luke Keller, a small but mean linebacker who moved to cornerback and was very quick. These three players guided the team through a very humid, hard fought, and long game at McCallie. Luke Keller even brought back a pick for about 60 yards, outrunning 90% of the McCallie offense. Nick Brunetti even brought in a long pass to take the lead. The team decided that they weren't done yet.

Baylor came to MBA, and they were much bigger, faster. They thought they could beat MBA. The game was neck-and-neck from the beginning, with the victor unclear, and it wouldn't be until the very end. By the end of the first half, almost

everybody at the game was satisfied with MBA's effort. They still weren't done yet. Turnovers plagued Baylor in the second half. MBA was able to establish just enough breathing room to take the lead. Baylor wasn't done, though. In a desperate attempt to get down the field, they threw a pass, which was completed, and taken up field for 20 yards. They attempted to do the same the next play, but Morgan Holzapfel was there again. Morgan intercepted the pass, and returned it about 30 yards, before sliding to the ground.

MBA was very excited to redeem themselves against BA. In a way, they did redeem themselves. In the first half, MBA was dominant. MBA shoved the ball up the middle of their formation with Jake Moore, who kept getting big rushes, and was always stopped by one man in the open after breaking several tackles earlier in the rush. The second half was where the problems began. After an interception which gave BA perfect field position, BA began to run the ball up MBA's throat. MBA gave a good push, but BA finally pushed themselves in to establish the lead. With seconds left, the game may have been decided, but Jordan Dayani decided he wouldn't let BA get off easily. Jordan hit an unsuspecting rusher so hard, that the other team was shocked. The boy who was hit was alright, after being a little shaken up.

After the season was over, Coach Story had a little something to tell the whole team from the heart. His words of encouragement inspired the team, and he could see what we had in store for the teams we would play next year.



8th Grade Football Season

By Luke Murray

The 2018 8th Grade Football team started the journey in early June with hard work and perseverance. We started working and building as a team: lifting in the weight room and working on the field. While the summer workouts were not mandatory, many players were able to come and help develop a strong bond between each other by the opening kickoff of the season. At the start of the mandatory practices, many players felt the symptoms of *Fortnite* withdrawal and the end of relaxing summer days, yet we were all glad that football was back. After a few weeks of learning new plays, bonding, and gaining better understanding of the system, we faced off against our Irish Rivals. The few weeks of hard practices prepared us for our opponent and we beat them 22-0. This win pumped us up heading into the next week versus CPA. With offensive touchdowns from Marcel Reed, Claiborne Richards, and Zane Thompson and stellar defense

The 8th Grade Football Team

led by Browning Trainer, Mitchell Frankum, and Tommy Carson, the team pulled out a big victory versus CPA 26-18. A week later the Big Red was ready to face off against Mt. Juliet Middle School. While it was a struggle without our QB Marcel Reed, Colin Kerrigan stepped up and showed effort and determination like the rest of the team but sadly we fell into a hole and lost 44-14. With a hard loss, we headed into a bye week. The bye week followed by another full week of practice prepared us for our game at McCallie. This was the first long road trip that the 2023 Football Team had taken. The trip was filled with movies like *Rudy* and snacks like Chick Fil A, but most importantly this was a business trip into the heart of McCallie. The game started off with Tommy Carson recovering a fumble and returning it 70 yards for 6 points. The defense played very well with great showings by Mitchell Frankum and Tommy Carson on the line with Grayson Soper, Browning Trainer, and Hampton Coleman at linebacker. The defense played the best game all year. To compliment the amazing defense, Grayson Soper rushed for two touchdowns and Zane Thompson broke away for another touchdown. This would not be possible without the stellar line play of Cooper Greene, Patrick Tatro, Noah Perry, Brooks

Smith, and Quinlan Stewart. The game was capped off by Zane Thompson, Grayson Soper, and Hampton Coleman grinding down the clock. With a big win over the Tornadoes (28-18), we headed home to prepare for a big game against Baylor.

With another two weeks of practice, we were ready to face Baylor. It was a big game because of many reasons: one is that it was our first time facing them in awhile, and also it was our first time this season playing in Tommy Owen Stadium. Sadly, we came out of the game with a 44-14 loss. The final game of the season was versus BA, one of our biggest rivals. Though we lost the game 35-0, the season was a success.

Over the span of about three months, our team grew together and bonded as one. The season finished up on paper as 3-3, but it was much more than that. This season helped us become close, and it prepared us for the years ahead. This season would not have been possible without many people like our great manager Frank Hancock, who kept us hydrated and our gear where it needed to be, our coaches who taught us the many lessons of not only football but also life, and the parents for coming to cheer us on.



The 2018 Microbe Cross Country Team

CrossCountry

By Niles Melteson

This year the Junior School cross country team won three out of their six meets and never performed worse than a second place finish. It truly was an amazing season!

Summer workouts began on July 30th with a strong group of Big Red runners ready to take on the daunting season ahead. The group went into their first meet at Vaughn's Creek quite prepared after summer practices. MBA finished just 5 points behind a strong group of BA's runners. After a week of running and hill reps, the Big Red team went to the USN river campus for their second meet of the season. After a tense night of waiting, the results were released. Richard Aylward finished just one tenth of a second ahead of a USN runner to nudge the USN's score up just enough to send both teams to a tiebreaker. When the judges looked to the sixth runner of both the USN and MBA teams,

they found that a massive pack of Big Red runners finished alongside fifth place MBA runner, Sam Frank. With Josh Tan on his heels, it broke the tie to hand the meet to the Big Red.

The team went to their third meet at the (to quote Coach Reynolds) "ABANDONED" Ravenwood golf course. The Big Red defeated USN 33 to 57. After this meet the seventh graders went on their annual trip to Camp Laney, leaving the eighth graders to run without our key sevvies like Richard Aylward, William Dean, and William Le, to name a few. Nevertheless, MBA still managed to finish second against CPA, BA, SMS, USN, and Grace Christian with Oliver Pilkinton and Jackson Lefler running amazing times of 11:30:93 and 12:06:86. With the seventh graders back, the team went to Ensworth High school to compete against Harding, SMS, Ensworth, and Nashville Christian, to name a few. On the new course, the team sped along to capture another win for the Big Red.

With the HVAC championship meet looming large, the team prepared with a calm week of practice to rest their legs after the long season. The Big Red then went down to the river campus yet again for their final meet of the season. After the girls' race, the top fifteen runners from all the teams competing began warming up and getting focused for the final race. After the race, all of the MBA runners not in the top fifteen began a separate "JV" race. In this race MBA's scoring runners took 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th with Sam Frank winning the race. Once the championship results were in, the team gathered around. The results went as follows: 8th: Ensworth, 7th: BGA, 6th: Harding, 5th: CPA, 4th: SMS, 3rd: USN, 2nd: MBA, 1st: BA.

Despite a second place finish, the team still had all 31 runners run two miles in under 17 minutes. All in all, the Junior School cross country team had an outstanding season. Run Red Run!



The Honky Tonk and HOTC Regattas

By Harrison Zoller

Earlier in the season, Montgomery Bell Academy's crew team traveled to Cleveland, Ohio to compete in the Head of The Cuyahoga Regatta. On September 14th, the crew team met on campus at 6:00am, and reached Ohio roughly nine hours later, at 3:00pm. After rigging our boats, we inspected our course. Located in the middle of the course was a turn measuring close to ninety degrees, which we were told was prone to boat-on-boat collisions. Afterwards, we traveled to the hotel, and after someone asked if we were a baseball team during our team meeting, concluded our day. The following day we had the same schedule, as we competed from 6:00am to 3:00pm. The final standings were second place for the "Mens Jr Ltwt 8+," seventh place for the "Mens Jr 2x;" first, seventh, and ninth for the "Mens Jr Novice 8+," seventeenth for the "Mens Jr 4+," ninth and seventeenth for the "Mens Jr 2nd 4+," both first and second for the "Mens Open Novice 8+," third for the "Mens Jr Novice 4+," ninth in the Mens Jr 8+," and first in the "Mens Jr Ltwt 4+." I

believe our successes were caused by our determination as a team to bring back a medal from an out-of-a-state regatta, and our coxswain's successful Tokyo-drifts around the mentioned fatal turn.

To end their fall season and fall break, the Montgomery Bell Academy crew team competed in the Music City Head Regatta on October 13, 2018. The day before, the team assembled in front of Nissan Stadium to rig their shells and to practice one last time without an ominous clock. This year's Junior School participants in the race included Peyton Alexander, Cannon Burns, Reid Groomes, Owen Henderson, Orman Nimmo, Noah Perry, Fletcher Robinson, Harrison Zoller, Nicholas Egbert, Jaxon Leasure, Carter Plato, and Walter Reisinger. Our high school participants by last name include Hall, Durelli, Vest, Vaughan, Locke, Wiel, Green, Bettis, Preston, Sparks, Kirkland, Mire, Summar, Coulthard, Murff, Minkoff, McRae, Higgs, Reisinger, Wisniewski, Wilson, Flanagan, King, Mauro, Hirschman,

Ruccio, Lindsey, Hirschman, Neal, Roth, Nimmo, Viner, Krumm, Dattilo, Klassen, Zoller, Graves, Owens, Atnip, Gold, and Dayani.

MBA's high school team entered in several boats, all with varying results. The "Mens Youth 4+" placed fifth, thirteenth and fourteenth. Our "Mens Youth Novice 8+ 'A'" team secured first by 0:00.4 seconds, while the "B" team placed eighth. "Mens Youth 4x" placed fifth- 0:00.1 short of fourth, while the "Mens Youth 8+" team placed ninth and fifteenth. MBA's "Mens Youth Novice 4+" secured first, tenth, and thirteenth. "Mens Youth Ltwt 4+" finished in fourth and seventh, and our "Mens Youth 2x" finished in fourth. MBA's Junior School team had a fairly successful event, placing second and fourth. But, because Nashville Rowing decided to create a separate division for gender-mixed boats, MBA's Junior School "A" boat walked away with a gold medal, while the "B" boat walked away with a silver medal.





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